

C R O M E R
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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THE SEVENTY-THIRD
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st

1957

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CROMER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Mr. Wm. C. Fulcher,	J. P., Chairman
Mr. C. R. Amis	Miss V. C. Reeve
Mr. H. T. Davies	Mr. L. T. Sansford
Mr. W. H. Easton	Mr. N. D. Warnes
Mr. R. W. Graveling	Mr. J. E. Webster

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CROMER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

R E P O R T
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
Year Ended 31st December, 1957.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council,

In my acting capacity as Medical Officer of Health of the District due to Dr. Norbury's unfortunate illness, I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1957.

It will be appreciated that, in these circumstances, the Report must necessarily be brief. It is confined mainly to the statistical records bearing on the public health of the District and to the environmental factors which have been dealt with in the report submitted by the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector which is attached to this Report. (Part II)

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Haigh and the Staff of the Local Health Office of the Area for their assistance in the compilation of this Report.

Your obedient Servant,

W. H. CRICHTON C.I.E.,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Acting M. O. H.

PART I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

Area in Acres	1,158
Population (Estimated)	4,880
Number of Inhabited houses.....	1,743
Rateable Value	£80,130
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£355

1. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Cromer is situated at about the middle of the line of sandy cliff that runs along the coast of Norfolk from Mundesley to Woybourne. Its position is elevated and healthy. Bracing winds and a small rainfall are the main features of its climate. A popular Seaside Resort.

2. VITAL STATISTICS

(a) <u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Legitimate	29	42	71
Illegitimate	1	5	6
	<u>30</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>77</u>

(b) Percentage of Illegitimate births ... 7.7% as compared with 12.3% in 1956.

(c) Live Birth Rate ... 15.7 per 1,000 estimated population compared with 11.7 in the preceding year. The corrected birth rate, after application of the comparability factor (1.09) was 17.1. The corresponding figure in 1956 was 12.9.

(d) Still births - There were two still births, a male and a female. Both were illegitimate.

The still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births was 16.5.

(e) Infant Deaths ... Two infants died under one year of age. Both were males and both were legitimate.

(f) Infant Mortality Rates ... The infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births was 25.9 as compared with 17.5 in 1956.

The legitimate infant mortality rate was 28.1 and, as both infants died within the first four weeks of life, the neo-natal mortality rate was 26.2.

There were no illegitimate infant deaths.

(g) The Causes of Death

The number of deaths and their causes as recorded by the Registrar General are shown in the following table :-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Cancer, stomach	3	1	4
" lung and bronchi	-	1	1
" breast	-	3	3
" uterus	-	2	2
Other forms of Cancer	3	5	8
Vascular lesions, nervous system	7	7	14
Coronary disease and angina	8	9	17
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
Other heart disease	2	10	12
Other circulatory diseases	1	-	1
Pneumonia	5	1	6
Bronchitis	-	1	1
Other diseases, respiratory system	1	1	2
Enlargement of the prostate	3	-	3
Other diseases and ill-defined diseases	2	2	4
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
All other accidents	1	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	37	44	81
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 17.3 as compared with 11.5 in 1956, and the corrected death rate 12.28 as against 8.1 in 1956.

It will be noticed that no deaths occurred from Tuberculosis or from any other infective condition. Cancer, in its various forms, was responsible for 22.2% of the deaths; Heart Disease for 37%; Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System for 18.5%; and Respiratory Diseases for 11%.

Maternal mortality - Happily, there were no deaths due to pregnancy or childbirth.

3. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(a) The number and character of notifiable diseases which occurred in the District during 1957 are as shewn in the following table :-

Disease	Age Unknown	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25- 64	Total
Measles	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	-	5	3	9	15	-	-	-	32
Chicken Pox	-	1	3	2	14	1	-	-	21
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	3
Acute Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
TOTAL	-	6	6	12	31	1	1	2	59

In the preceding year the number was 99, due mainly to Measles of which there were 77 cases and only 6 of Whooping Cough. This year, on the other hand, the number of cases of Whooping Cough predominates. Fortunately, due to the vaccination against Whooping Cough, the cases which occur are not severe in character.

(b) TUBERCULOSIS No new cases were reported and there were no deaths. The number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was practically the same as in the preceding year as there were no "inward transfers". Thus :-

<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
13	9	3	3
-22-			
-6-			
<u>TOTAL ... 28</u>			

(c) POLIOMYELITIS 810 persons in the area were vaccinated against Poliomyelitis with two doses during the year. These comprised only children in the authorised age groups 3-10 years. In Cromer Urban District 105 persons were protected with two doses.

(d) SMALLPOX VACCINATION ... The figures available related to the whole area, but these show a welcome and appreciable increase on the preceding year's figures. Thus:-

<u>Age at date of Vaccination</u>	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5-14</u>	<u>15 & over</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Primary	257	8	-	4	15	7	23	314
Re-vaccination	-	3	-	-	5	31	69	108

(e) IMMUNISATIONS ... In the majority of cases, primary courses of immunisation against Diphtheria were "combined" with Whooping Cough vaccine. The number of children so protected in the area as a whole was 248. This includes infants, toddlers and children of school age. In addition, 8 children had "booster" doses of Diphtheria vaccine.

It should be noted that "combined" vaccines are not considered advisable during the Poliomyelitis "season" because of the risk of the injection provoking an attack in a person infected with the Poliomyelitis virus.

The total number of children of school age and of infants who have been immunised against Diphtheria since the inception of the Immunisation programme in 1944 was 3796 by the end of 1957. Of these, 1618 had also received "Booster" doses.

PART II.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

THE REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1. Sanitary Inspections of the Area:

The following inspections were carried out :-

House to House Inspections	121
Inspections under Housing Acts	27
Inspections of Nuisances discovered	17
Reinspection to ascertain Progress	17
Visits in connection with Infectious Diseases	3
Inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies	65
Inspections under Factories and Workshops Acts	26
Reinspections.....	26
Inspection of tenements	19
Inspection of Foodshops other than Dairies & Bakehouses...	650
Premises disinfected	2
Rooms disinfected	5
Drainage systems tested	29
Committee Meetings attended	12
Preliminary Notices served	9
Legal Proceedings taken	Nil
Premises found to be defective by house to house inspection.	24
Premises found to be defective by Workshop Inspection	Nil
Premises found to be defective by Tenement Inspection	Nil
Statutory Notices served	Nil
Housing - No Court Action taken	Nil

2. Housing ... The erection of Council houses is now at a standstill and one must note that the present rents are a serious drain on the pockets of people not in receipt of industrial incomes.

The average of private persons erecting houses for their own needs is being maintained, but a shortage of building sites in the right locality may hamper this movement in the near future.

3. Slum Clearance ... Steady progress was continued during the year in this connection, the tendency being towards improvement and re-construction rather than demolition.

4. Food Inspection ... Continuous inspection of meat and other foods has been carried out during the year and the standard of food offered for sale continues to be good. I wish to acknowledge the ready co-operation of the firms engaged in this trade, both Wholesale and Retail.

5. Slaughter Houses ... There are no Licensed Slaughter Houses in the District.

6. Factories Acts 1937 and 1948

The following inspections were carried out to ensure conformity with the regulations prescribed for health :-

1. Premises	2. Number on Register.	Number of		
		3. Inspect -ions.	4. Written Notices	5 Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	20	16	Nil	Nil
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	8	7	Nil	Nil
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding Out-Workers Premises)	3	3	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	31	26	Nil	Nil

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Act, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Factories Acts (cont.).

Cases in which defects were found in the factories on inspection and the manner in which these were dealt with are tabulated as follows :-

Particulars 1	No. of Cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted. 6
	Found 2	Remedied 3	Referred TO H.M. Inspector 4	BY H.M. Inspector 5	
Want of Cleanliness S.1.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding S.2.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature. S.3.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation. S.4.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors. S.6.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences S.7. (a) insufficient (b) unsuitable or defective ... (c) Not separate for sexes ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (including offences relating to outwork)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

7. Water

Samples of raw and chlorinated water were taken from the Metton Pumping Station at intervals during the year and the analysis carried out proved that this source of water continues to be of very high purity. Satisfactory reports were received on all the samples submitted.

J. A. HAIGH
Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

